

IN HONOR OF MRS. GRACE VIRGINIA RICHARDSON HUMPHREY CUTTS

### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2020*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an inspiring woman, respected community leader, and a transgenerational pillar in Dawson, Georgia—Mrs. Grace Virginia Richardson Humphrey Cutts. Sadly, Mrs. Cutts passed away on Tuesday, November 17, 2020, at the remarkable age of 108. But she leaves behind a legacy of impact upon countless people whose lives she touched. Her funeral service was held on Tuesday, December 1, 2020, at 11 am at the Adoration Temperance Obedience Charity (ATOC) African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church in Dawson, Georgia.

Mrs. Grace Virginia Richardson Humphrey Cutts was born on March 2, 1912, in Dawson, Georgia, to the union of Walter Revenna Richardson and Clara Louise Cochran Richardson.

Mrs. Cutts was a person who overcame many obstacles to make a difference in the lives of others. She was raised in a time during which African Americans were limited in their opportunities to better themselves. But, Mrs. Cutts was undeterred and set out on a path to overcome all obstacles that would prevent her from carrying out God's calling upon her life.

She graduated from Allen Normal and Industrial High School and enrolled in Georgia Normal and Agricultural College—now Albany State University, graduating in 1949.

She served as a teacher for 45 years, using her gifts to impact the lives of thousands of young people who went on to achieve in no small part because of her influence. Even after she retired, she continued to make a difference in the lives of young people through tutoring and mentoring.

The course and the direction of her life were set by the name she was given at birth—Grace. She was proud of her character and used that character to exhibit grace and compassion to all with whom she came in contact. She kept God as the center of her life and the captain of her ship. She was a member of the ATOC AME Church for an astonishing 102 years. Besides being the Mother of the Church, she served during various times as the church pianist, secretary, and Stewardess.

In addition to being dedicated to her church and her community, she was a wife, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother. Her family was always supportive and through the years, allowed her to give her time and treasure to God and her community. She was married to the late Calvin Homer Humphrey and the late Sammie Lee Cutts; was the loving mother to the late Calvin Walter Humphrey; and she was a doting grandmother and great grandmother.

Former Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm once said that "If they don't give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair." We are so thankful that Mrs. Grace Cutts always brought a folding chair and used her life's work to make a difference. 1 Peter 4:10 says, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." Mrs. Cutts

exemplified that grace because of her faith in God and used God's grace to serve others in a mighty way. To God Be The Glory for the amazing and meaningful life of Mrs. Grace Virginia Richardson Humphrey Cutts.

Madam Speaker, my wife, Vivian and I, along with the more than 730,000 people of the Second Congressional District, and all those who mourn her loss, salute Mrs. Grace Virginia Richardson Humphrey Cutts for her lifetime of service to humankind. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in extending our deepest condolences to Mrs. Cutts' family during this difficult time of bereavement. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

### VICTORVILLE CITY COUNCIL MEMBER JIM COX RETIRES

### HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2020*

Mr. COOK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the retirement of Jim Cox from the Victorville City Council.

Jim was first named Victorville City Manager in 1969, and held that position until 2000. He returned after a brief departure to serve as City Manager again from 2009 to 2012. During his time as City Manager, he won a number of accolades and was appointed to several regional boards and commissions, highlighting the expertise he displayed as he worked on behalf of Victorville residents. In 2012, Jim was elected to the Victorville City Council, where he served two terms.

Jim's time on the council has been marked by successes in Victorville, including the La Mesa/Nisqualli Bridge and interchange project. He has governed with decency and decorum, and has always place an emphasis on community service. His work with Rotary International, as well as his ex-officio membership of the Victor Valley Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, has impacted his community just as deeply as his government service. I offer my sincere congratulations to Jim on a well deserved retirement, and wish him the best as he moves to the next chapter of his life.

### APPRECIATING CINDY SMITH

### HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2020*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I would like to take the time to recognize Cindy Smith for her dedicated work to the Lexington District One Board of Trustees. She is an important member of our community as she has worked to improve our children's education.

DISTRICT HONORS 20-YEAR BOARD MEMBER

On Tuesday, Oct. 20, the Lexington District One Board of Trustees honored board chair Cynthia "Cindy" S. Smith who decided to retire following 20 consecutive years of devoted service to the district.

She became involved in Lexington District One while serving as president of the Lexington Elementary School PTA. After serving in the PTA and her children's School Improvement Council, she decided to run for the Board of Trustees in 2000 and was elected.

Smith served as secretary, vice chair and chair throughout her 20 years of service.

As one of the fastest-growing school districts in the state, ranking sixth in total enrollment, Smith is proud of the excellent academic reputation the district established.

During her tenure on the board, the district experienced rapid growth, and drew accolades and national recognition for high academic improvement and innovative programs.

An active community member, Smith chaired the South Carolina Insurance Trust Board of Directors, the Lexington District One Educational Foundation, the South Carolina School Boards Association and the Lexington Woman's Club and served on the Executive Board of the Friends of the Lexington County Library and the Board of Directors for the South Carolina School Improvement Council.

### HONORING THE LIFE OF ELAINE RASBERRY

### HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 2, 2020*

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, Elaine Rasberry was born on January 31, 1956 in Chicago, IL to the union of Christine Davis and Leroy Williams, both of whom preceded her in death. She was also preceded in death by her brother Calvin Davis and granddaughter Jurzee Hopson.

Elaine accepted the Lord as her personal savior at an early age under the leadership of Pastor Hackline of Chicago, IL. She realized you find God the moment you realize you don't need to seek him. Later she joined Garden of Prayer Missionary Baptist Church, under the leadership of Pastor Johnnie Haynie.

Elaine loved her family and her friends. She was your favorite cousins' favorite cousin. She stayed connected to everyone in her extended family including the Davis, Williams, Houston and Rasberry families. She was known for her famous lemon pies and German chocolate cakes. Her brother Calvin traveled miles for a taste of her butter cookies.

Elaine graduated from Lucy Flower High School in Chicago and received a business certificate from the Murdock Institute. She always had a passion for children, serving as an associate at Mark's Day Care and a teacher's aide at St. Eulalia Elementary school. Most recently, she served as a student monitor for children with special needs at Student First.

Elaine's hobbies included cooking, traveling, watching The Young and the Restless and Tyler Perry movies, eating Red Lobster, posting on Facebook and of course she loved shopping.

She always had a deep affection for helping people, serving as the Vice-President of the Van Buren Block Club where she hosted school supply drives to help poverty-stricken families. One of her biggest honors was meeting and taking a photo with President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama.